



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

**CORRECTIONS OFFICER FOUND GUILTY OF
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR IS SENTENCED TO PROBATION**

Acting United States Attorney Anthony J. Jenkins announced today that Malcolm Hughes, convicted by a St. Croix jury of one count of sexual exploitation of a minor was sentenced on June 8, 2005 to Five Years Probation, a Five Thousand Dollar (\$5,000) fine and a One Hundred Dollar (\$100) mandatory special assessment.

The defendant was arrested on September 8, 2003 on a felony complaint filed in District Court. He was subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury on September 16, 2003. The verdict of guilty was returned on November 25, 2003 following a two-day jury trial before District Judge Raymond Finch on St. Croix. Hughes, 30 years old, a resident of the LBJ housing community, was convicted of one-count of sexual exploitation of a minor, a violation of Title 18 United States Code, Section 2252(a)(4)(B) and (b)(2) which carries a maximum punishment of up to 5 years in prison. The U.S. Sentencing Guidelines recommended a sentence of 15 to 24 months in prison.

Hughes, a former Corrections Officer at the Golden Grove Correctional Facility was convicted after a jury found that he had taken sexually explicit photographs of a minor under the

age of 18 years in his apartment at LBJ housing community. He had taken the sexually explicit photographs of the minor on two separate occasions during the summer of 2003, and had them developed at a local photo-processing center at the Golden Rock Shopping Center. After the photographs were processed, he gave the victim a set and kept a set for himself. The photographs were uncovered during a police investigation of a missing person call at the victim's residence. The photographs were found by the victim's younger brother who in turn gave them to his mother who promptly gave them to the police.

Acting United States Attorney Jenkins thanked the Virgin Islands Police Department and gave individual credit to Sergeant Steve Brown and Detectives Gregory Bennerson and Myrtle Meyers for their hard work and dedication in the case.